CLAIMS

1. A program, operable on at least one computer, for accessing machine software operative of a machine, comprising:

a protocol layer for converting data derived from the machine software to a set of function calls, the function calls being exportable to an application for viewing on a user interface; and

a system interface for applying a set of permissions to the function calls from the protocol layer, whereby only a permitted subset of function calls may be exported to an application, wherein a subset of permissions restrict access to the machine to one of direct connection and network connection.

2. The program of claim 1, wherein the system interface submits an internal ID to the protocol layer in order to access a particular function call.

3. The program of claim 1, further including an application layer interfacing with the system interface, the application creating a user interface, the application accessing function calls from the protocol layer exclusively through the system interface.